

Translation

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT/JP2003/017071



PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY
(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference FP03-0436-00	FOR FURTHER ACTION		See Form PCT/IPEA/416
International application No. PCT/JP2003/017071	International filing date (day/month/year) 26 December 2003 (26.12.2003)	Priority date (day/month/year) 27 December 2002 (27.12.2002)	
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC C08J 5/04, B29C 43/18, 70/06 // C08L 87:00, B29K 101:00, 105:06			
Applicant NITTO BOSEKI CO., LTD.			

<p>1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.</p> <p>2. This REPORT consists of a total of <u>4</u> sheets, including this cover sheet.</p> <p>3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:</p> <p>a. <input type="checkbox"/> (sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau) a total of _____ sheets, as follows:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis of this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.</p> <p>b. <input type="checkbox"/> (sent to the International Bureau only) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) _____, containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).</p>	
<p>4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I Basis of the report</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II Priority</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI Certain documents cited</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application</p>	

Date of submission of the demand 26 July 2004 (26.07.2004)	Date of completion of this report 24 November 2004 (24.11.2004)
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/JP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

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Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the language, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

- ☐ This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language _____, which is language of a translation furnished for the purpose of:
- ☐ international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b))
- ☐ publication of the international application (under Rule 12.4)
- ☐ international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3)

2. With regard to the elements of the international application, this report is based on *(replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report)*:

- ☒ The international application as originally filed/furnished
- ☐ the description:
 pages _____, as originally filed/furnished
 pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
 pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☐ the claims:
 pages _____, as originally filed/furnished
 pages* _____, as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19
 pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
 pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☐ the drawings:
 pages _____, as originally filed/furnished
 pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
 pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☐ a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) – see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.

3. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☐ the claims, Nos. _____
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____
- ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
- ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____

4. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☐ the claims, Nos. _____
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____
- ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
- ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

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International application No.

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V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	4, 5, 9-16	YES
	Claims	1-3, 6-8, 17	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims		YES
	Claims	1-17	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-17	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations

- Document 1: WO 99/01501 A1 (The Dow Chemical Company),
14 January 1999
- Document 2: JP 10-251423 A (Unitika Ltd.), 22 September
1998
- Document 3: US 5895808 A (EMS-Inventa AG), 20 April 1999
- Document 4: EP 505139 A1 (Teijin Ltd.), 23 September
1992
- Document 5: JP 2000-034399 A (Nichias Corp.), 2 February
2000
- Document 6: US 5432007 A (Shizu Naito), 11 July 1995
- Document 7: EP 548930 A1 (Takeda Chemical Industries,
Ltd.), 30 June 1993
- Document 8: EP 262891 A2 (Toho Rayon Co., Ltd.), 6 April
1988

The inventions set forth in claims 1 to 3, 6, and 17 are disclosed in documents 1 to 4 cited in the international search report, and thus, lack novelty. Documents 1 to 4 disclose methods for manufacturing a fiber-reinforced thermoplastic resin by mixing reinforcing fibers into a polymerizable monomer from which can be formed a thermoplastic resin, and then polymerizing the monomer; document 1 discloses the use of a depolymerizable thermoplastic polyurethane, document 2 discloses the use

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of a thermoplastic polyimide precursor, and documents 3 and 4 disclose the use of lactam compounds.

The invention set forth in claim 7 is disclosed in document 2 cited in the international search report, and thus, lacks novelty. Document 2 discloses a method using a polyimide precursor.

The invention set forth in claim 8 is disclosed in document 1 cited in the international search report, and thus, lacks novelty. Document 1 discloses a method using a depolymerizable polyurethane.

Claims 1 to 17 do not involve an inventive step in the light of documents 1 to 4 and documents 5 to 8 cited in the international search report. A person skilled in the art could easily conceive of applying the technical concept of mixing reinforcing fibers into a polymerizable monomer from which can be formed a thermoplastic resin, disclosed in documents 1 to 4, to the manufacture of a known fiber-reinforced thermoplastic resin, such as one disclosed in documents 5 to 8.

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